

## EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support



*Saving the California coast...one step at a time*

7207 Bodega Avenue Sebastopol, CA 95472-3725 ☎ 707 829-6689 📠 800 550-6854 📠 FAX 707 829-0326 🌐 [www.coastwalk.org](http://www.coastwalk.org)

April 26, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: support for Carrington Ranch study

Dear Mr. Morabito:

The Board of directors of Coastwalk asked me to write in support of funding for the Initial Public Uses study for Carrington Ranch in Sonoma County. This beautiful ranch sits on the marine terrace just north of Bodega Bay and will become a part of Sonoma Coast State Beach. The popular state park here has very heavy visitation and the ranch will become attractive for those wishing to walk the Coastal Trail and get spectacular views of Bodega Head and surrounding beaches. Also, as the ranch recovers from grazing it will provide much needed habitat for the species living in coastal scrub.

Thanks for your consideration

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. Nichols".

Richard Nichols  
Coastwalk

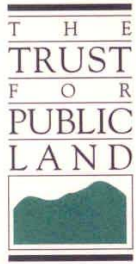
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APR 28 2004

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Del Norte Humboldt Mendocino Sonoma Marin San Francisco San Mateo Santa Cruz  
Monterey San Luis Obispo Santa Barbara Ventura Los Angeles Orange San Diego

## EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support



Conserving Land  
for People

April 27, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100  
Oakland, CA 94612

### Re: Proposed Grant for the Planning and Site Development of the Carrington Ranch in Sonoma County, California


Dear Mr. Morabito:

I strongly urge your support for funding \$260,000 for the facility planning; environmental analyses, and property clean up activities necessary to allow for immediate public access to the Carrington Ranch in Sonoma County. The 344-acre Carrington Ranch, soon to be conveyed to the California Department of Parks and Recreation, will be a valuable addition to the heavily used Sonoma Coast State Beach.

The Carrington Ranch project is a multi-partner conservation effort which includes the Sonoma County Agricultural and Open Space District, the California Department of Parks and Recreation, two non-profit conservation organizations Coastwalk and Landpaths, and last but not least, the State Coastal Conservancy.

The local community and all users of the Sonoma Coast State Beach would appreciate access to this new State Park's addition sooner rather than later. Without this grant from the State Coastal Conservancy, State Parks may be unable to allow immediate public access to the Ranch due to operating budget constraints. I respectfully ask that you give serious consideration to the granting of these funds to State Parks for the interim planning and site assessment of the Carrington Ranch.

Sincerely,

  
Sonia Jacques  
Senior Project Manager

cc: Andrea Mackenzie, Sonoma County Agricultural and Open Space District,  
Warren Westrup, California Department of Parks and Recreation

Richard Retecki, State Coastal Conservancy

Tim Wirth, The Trust for Public Land, San Francisco Bay Area Program  
The Trust for Public Land  
Western Region  
116 New Montgomery  
Third Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105

(415) 495-5660  
Fax (415) 495-0541

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.



## EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support

BILL KORTUM, D.V.M.

180 Ely Road North, Petaluma CA 94954-1101  
(707) 762-6219

Chairman Paul Morabito  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100  
Oakland CA 94612

Re: Carrington Ranch Initial Public Uses Project

Dear Chairman Morabito:

Having watched the off and on acquisition history of Carrington by the Sonoma County Open Space District, the completed purchase was a real thrill for those of us who follow coastal land protection.

As a participating lay advisor to Gary Shannon, State Park trail planner who is designing the Sonoma Coast section of the California Coastal Trail, I have had the privilege to walk and explore the Carrington property extensively. I add my enthusiastic support to the funding of the Carrington Ranch Initial Public Uses Project.

Coastal beaches fronting the Carrington Ranch accommodate extensive public use as evidenced by crowded parking lots full even on weekdays. Interim public access to Carrington made possible by the Conservancy appropriation would expand the recreational opportunities of a substantial visitor constituency.

Sincerely,



Bill Kortum

April 29, 2004

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.



## EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support



California Regional Office  
201 Mission Street, Fourth Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105

tel [415] 777.0487  
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[415] 777.0772  
nature.org

April 30, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito  
Chairman  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11th floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

### Support for Carrington Ranch Property Grant


Dear Mr. Morabito:


We are writing in support of the proposed grant to the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) relating to the Carrington Ranch in Sonoma County. We understand the purpose of the grant is to undertake planning, environmental analysis and permitting activities for interim public access and to initiate removal of unsafe and/or unnecessary buildings on the ranch. We understand the Coastal Conservancy will consider this matter at its May 2004 meeting. This grant will support the ultimate transfer of the ranch to the DPR for incorporation into the Sonoma Coast State Beaches facility.

The Nature Conservancy's Sonoma County Plan identifies the area within which the property lies as an ecoregional priority for its coastal terrace prairie, riparian areas, and northern coastal scrub, and western snowy plover.

I hope the Board will approve your staff's recommendation. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important project.

Sincerely,

  
Wendy Millet  
Director, North Coast Ecoregion  
The Nature Conservancy

  
George Yandell  
North Coast Project Director  
The Nature Conservancy

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MAY 03 2004

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

## EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support



# Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods

*Preservation through Education and Restoration*

Russian River Sector State Parks

California State Coastal Conservancy  
Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman  
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito,

Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods (Stewards) would like to encourage your support for the Carrington Ranch Initial Public Uses project coming before you for approval at your May meeting. This project conducted by California State Parks will undertake the planning, environmental analysis and permitting activities for the interim public access of the Carrington Ranch on the magnificent Sonoma Coast. This project will initiate the removal of unsafe and/or unnecessary building on the ranch.

The acquisition of the Carrington Ranch has long been a priority for State Parks and it was made possible through a partnership with the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District. This piece of property has also helped with the expansion of the Coastal Trail with the help of Coastwalk. In addition, LandPaths has helped with the planning efforts for transitioning this property to State Parks. Stewards has also supported this effort through its advocacy activities.

This funding request is a critical first step in realizing the goal of public access in the short term on this incredible property with magnificent coastal views. Once State Parks takes ownership of the property Stewards will assist by supporting interpretive and resource management projects on this new land acquisition.

Stewards is the nonprofit environmental organization that has an ongoing contractual relationship with State Parks to support interpretation and resource management projects in the State Parks in the south Russian River sector.

We thank you for your consideration.

Michele Luna  
Executive Director

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APR 28 2004

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

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[www.stewardsofthecoastandredwoods.org](http://www.stewardsofthecoastandredwoods.org)

